

The Bel Aire Breeze

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Complimentary copy

Tax steady in city budget

Council holds next year's tax mill levy in line with 2012

By Matt Heilman

What a difference a year makes. The City of Bel Aire still has a long road ahead of it before its steep debt is in the rearview mirror. But a combination of land sales and tough decisions made last year has the city in much better position in preparing its 2013 budget.

At its July 17 meeting, the Bel Aire council unanimously approved a draft of the 2013 budget that doesn't call for a tax increase.

The city's portion of the mill levy was set at a maximum of 46.118 mills. From this point, the city can lower its portion of the mill levy from

46.118 mills, but it can't raise it.

The total property taxes Bel Aire residents are projected to pay in 2013, including the city's portion, plus the school district, fire protection and Sedgwick County is 153.598 mills. This number mirrors the total mark for 2012.

Last year, the city approved a property tax hike of 6.839 mills from 2011, which meant that the owner of a \$100,000 house will pay about \$79 more in city taxes by the end of this year than in 2011.

Last year's budget also included cuts of about \$745,000. Hit especially hard was the police department, which lost three full-time

officers and a full-time police clerk as a result of the cuts.

While the city isn't in a position to scale back to its pre-2012 mark for the 2013 budget, city leaders seemed satisfied with keeping the mill levy no worse than stable, at least for now.

City Manager Ty Lasher credited the council and resident input last year for helping the city get to a point where it could manage a 2013 budget without asking residents to dig deeper into their pockets.

On July 17, Bel Aire Finance Director

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First tenant commits to commerce park in city

Century Manufacturing to build

By Matt Heilman

The first domino has fallen in Bel Aire's 800 acres of land known as the Sunflower Commerce Park. The identity of a proposed tenant that was working on an agreement with the city to move some of its operations to Bel Aire was revealed at the July 3 Bel Aire City Council meeting.

Century Manufacturing plans to construct a building on a lot in the south part of the commerce park that stretches from Webb to Greenwich Road along 53rd North.

The company manufactures acrylic and Lucite awards and promotional materials. Lucite is a form of solid transparent plastic. On July 3, Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said one example of a final product from the company is a document suspended in the transparent plastic as an award.

Century Manufacturing founder Jim Laubach said the building in the commerce park would include office space, warehousing and some manufacturing. He said his company is hoping to begin operating in Bel Aire by the end of the year.

Laubach said Century Manufacturing has sold its building located across from Jabara Airport in the 3300 block of Webb Road where Heartland Coin Gallery operated at the front of the building with manufacturing in the back.

Heartland Coin Gallery is moving southeast near the Star Lumber location in the 2600 block of North Greenwich Road. To move forward

See TENANT, Page 2



Matt Heilman

After surviving a challenging round of budget cuts in 2012, the Bel Aire Rec Center has managed to get by with volunteer help, including coaching staffs for the city's rec league baseball and softball teams. Rec Center director Drew Conwell said Bel Aire saw a record number of participants in youth baseball and softball this summer.

Departments help budget by making due with less

By Matt Heilman

It's been an uphill battle that doesn't yet have an end in sight. But the worst days for the City of Bel Aire appear to be behind it. After two tumultuous budget seasons necessitated deep cuts and steep property tax increases, the city is on more solid ground heading into 2013.

But the improved financial state of the city has come at a cost beyond the impact on residents' wallets. City employees have had to make due with less and maintain or take on more responsibilities.

The Bel Aire Police Department has taken the brunt of the impact, taking a \$308,000 cut last year that resulted in layoffs for three full-time officers, two part-time officers and a full-time administrative assistant.

The cuts amounted to about 42 percent of the department's budget and also included the loss of three patrol vehicles.

"My budget being the largest in the city, 42 percent amounted to a lot of money," Bel Aire

Police Chief John Daily said. "There was a whole plethora of things that occurred all at one time that made us so short-handed it was unbelievable."

Among the "plethora" of setbacks was the resignation of six officers, which left the department short of where it was supposed to be following the budget cut.

Instead of having two officers on the streets of Bel Aire at any given time, the department has generally had one officer on patrol.

"It's impacted our ability to give citations," Daily said. "(Officers are) still out there trying to enforce traffic laws to keep the streets safe and to make sure that we can keep an eye on the motor-ing public and keep accidents under control."

In 2012, Daily said his department was allotted seven police officers and one supervisor, not counting himself. Officers had to pick up the slack by working a lot of overtime this year, he said.

In July, the department hired a new officer and will be able to

bring on another in 2013. Daily said the new officer will "help immensely" with the traffic increase resulting from the opening of two new schools in the city, but his department is still short two full-time position and two part-time positions.

He said the department got through 2012 because he and the officers were able to "adapt and overcome."

"If (Bel Aire officers) weren't dedicated to their jobs, we couldn't do it," he said.

In 2013, Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said he hoped to see the department built up enough for two officers to serve on every shift.

"We've tried to minimize the impact of what people see resulting from a drop in expenditures," Lasher said. "... Fortunately, we haven't seen an increase in crime."

Although it didn't see as steep of a cut to its operating budget as the police department, the Bel Aire Rec Center also has had to adapt to making due with less.

The rec center includes a full-

time staff of two with part-time help at the front desk and two part-time maintenance workers.

In late June, the rec center wrapped up one of the busiest times of year with the conclusion of the youth baseball and softball season. This summer, full-time rec center program director Drew Conwell said there was a record-number, 269 participants playing baseball or softball in Bel Aire, from T-ball through youth-pitch levels. Most of the teams participated in the Bel Aire rec league with a few teams affiliated with the Wichita Heights League, which also includes teams from Valley Center Park City, Towanda and Whitewater.

Conwell, rec center director Brian Hayes and the part-time help are responsible for officiating most of the games and maintaining the fields and equipment. Volunteers have also stepped up to help the rec program run smoothly. Conwell said there were about 50 volunteer baseball and softball coaches this summer.

See MONEY, Page 2

City OKs plan to help finance retail area

Improvement district set

By Matt Heilman

A proposed downtown district for the City of Bel Aire is expected to someday bring entertainment and retail options to the city that are meant to draw visitors from the Wichita area and beyond. To help spur interest in the proposed 400 acres primarily running north along Rock Road from the Central Park community, the council approved an ordinance to create a Community Improvement District in the development.

The Community Improvement District (CID) allows the city to implement up to a 2-percent sales tax in the proposed downtown district that is meant as an incentive for potential developers and is essentially designed to allow the development to pay for itself with sales tax revenue going back into the development.

The council was unanimous in the approval of the CID at its July 17 meeting, but Peggy O'Donnell's approval came with some reservation. She said she is fundamentally against such incentives as CIDs, but understands it may be the best way for the city to sell the land.

In line with the CID, the council has supported the establishment of a STAR bond district in the proposed downtown development where a portion of the state's tax revenue could be used to help fund the district.

The sales tax will not apply to any current business in Bel Aire. It's limited to businesses that will be built in the downtown district.

Also on July 17, the council approved establishing a transient guest tax, also known as a "bed tax." The tax would require a lodging establishment like a hotel in the city to collect a 6 percent sales tax. The revenue from that tax would then go back to the city to utilize however it chooses.

There are currently no lodging establishments in Bel Aire, but hotels are expected to be part of the master plan for downtown development.



City of Bel Aire



Central Park Pool

7350 E. Central Park Ave. • 744-7331

POOL CLOSES AUGUST 12th!	Rentals are subject to availability. Up to 25 patrons: \$40/hour Over 25 patrons (limit of 50 patrons): \$60/hour
Daily Fees Under age 12 (must be accompanied by an adult): \$2 per day Over age 12: \$3 per day	Group lessons Members: \$35/session Non-Members: \$44/session Morning sessions: 7/9-7/20, 7/23-8/3; 11-11:45 a.m. & noon-12:45 p.m. Evening sessions: 7/9-7/20, 7/23-8/3; 7-7:45 p.m.
Hours (subject to change) Weekdays: Open swim 1 to 7 p.m. Weekends (Sat and Sun) : 1 to 6 p.m. Pool hours are subject to change.	Private lessons Available by appointment and subject to availability.
Rentals Have your next party at the pool! Rental packages are available after normal business hours.	

Bel Aire Recreation

5251 E. 48th North • www.belaireks.gov • 744-2700

Mon., Tue., & Thur. 8-8 • Wed. & Fri. 8-7 • Sat. 9-3

For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700.

COED OUTDOOR SOCCER (ages 4-11) Soccer for boys and girls ages 4-11. Games will be played on Saturdays from September 8th - October 20th. Practices will be set up by the coaches for one night a week starting Monday, August 27th. The registration deadline is August 18th.	at 807-1036 or visit www.maximizetraining.com
COED FLAG FOOTBALL (ages 6-11) Bel Aire will again be teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for flag football. Practices will be held at the respective home location with games being played at both sites. Flag Football is for boys and girls in 3rd-6th grade. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evenings of Saturday mornings. Practices will be set up by the coaches for weeknights starting Monday, August 27th. The registration deadline is August 18th.	ZUMBA Zumba is a Latin-inspired, dance-fitness class that incorporates Latin and international music and dance movements, creating a dynamic, exciting, exhilarating, and effective fitness system. Classes are held on Mondays & Thursdays from 6:00-7:00 pm. Teens & adults can join at any time!
MAXIMIZE BASKETBALL TRAINING Bel Aire Recreation has partnered with Brent Atwater, a former collegiate player and coach, to bring you several basketball clinics and camps throughout the year. Atwater's programs stress the fundamentals of basketball which make them perfect for kids of all ages and skill levels. Individual and group instruction is available by appointment. Please call Brent	TAEKWONDO (ages 5 & up) Classes meet on Monday & Friday from 5:00-6:00 pm or Tuesday & Thursday from 7:10-8:10 pm. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.
Practices will be set up by the coaches for weeknights starting Monday, August 7th. A \$5 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after the deadline. For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700	YOGA Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:10-7:10 pm. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Adults can join at any time! Teens & adults can join at any time!
	FITNESS CENTER (ages 16 & up) The Fitness Center consists of elliptical cross trainers, treadmills, recumbent bike, multi-station weight machine, and free-weights. There is no charge for pass holders, or it is available with the purchase of a daily pass.

Community Events

TOPS Tuesdays, 9 a.m. -- at the Senior Center
City Council Meetings – 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month
August 2nd & 3rd – 12-5 p.m. – Advance Voting
August 4th – 9-4 p.m. – Advance Voting
August 13th – 7 p.m. – Central Park HOA meeting at the Senior Center
August 13th – 7 p.m. – Bel Aire Heights HOA meeting in Community Room
August 21st – 4-6 p.m. - UAC Meeting at the Senior Center
August 27th – 7 p.m. - Tree Board Meeting at the Senior Center

A Reminder About Political Signs

It's that time of year again...please remember to support your favorite candidates in accordance with City Ordinance:

- No political sign may be erected more than 30 days prior to an election involving the candidate and all signs must be removed within two days after the election
- One political sign per candidate or ballot issue may be located upon each lot or parcel with permission of the land owner or tenant
- The sign must be on private property at least 6 feet from the property line. No signs are permitted on public property
- Signs that are erected in violation of City ordinance will be removed.

To view more of the rules related to political signs, please visit the City's website.

The City will be doing repairs on the sidewalk around Eagle Lake. Please avoid this area until construction is completed. Thank you!

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and Library area is open from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of library books to check out at no cost nor time restraints, along with computers available for study or research. Remember any senior can belong or attend to more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

Locations:

Senior Center/Community Room – 7651 E. Central Park Ave., 744-2451
Recreation Center – 5251 E. 48th St. N., 744-2700

Weekly Events:

Bel Aire Walkers – M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled)
Free for BA Senior members, alternate times available
Men's Coffee & Fellowship – Mondays, 10 a.m. at the Senior Center
Yoga – Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)
Bridge Games – Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center
Low Impact Aerobics – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center
Braum's Breakfast – Fridays, 9:00 a.m. on North Rock Road

Monthly & Special Events

August 3rd, 11 a.m. – Investment Presentation at the Senior Center
August 6th, 6:30 p.m. – Potluck Dinner and “Touring Italy” with John Ellert - Community Room
August 7th, 8:30 a.m. – Breakfast – Jimmy's 7777 E. 21st
August 8th, 10 a.m. – Volunteer library work time at the Senior Center
August 13th, 10 a.m. – RS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center
August 13th, 11:30 a.m. – Lunch at Mediterranean Grill 335 S. Armour
August 14th, 9 a.m. – CS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center
August 15th, Ladies Dine Out - for info call Anita at 744-2840
August 15th, 10 a.m. – Men's Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road
August 15th, 10:15 a.m. – Senior Aerobics Brunch (different locations)
August 15th, 2 p.m. – Ladies Tea/Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road
August 17th, 10:30 a.m. – Your Home Premium Care Presentation at the Senior Center
August 17th, 7 p.m. – Movie Night at the Senior Center
August 20th, 6 p.m. – Covered Dish Dinner and “Have You Heard” with Carrie Rengers – Rec Center
August 22nd, 10 a.m. – Open Sewing at the Senior Center
August 22nd , Leaving Senior Center at 10 a.m. – Lunch at John Henry's / Ellinwood Underground Tunnels
August 24th, 10:30 a.m. – Yoder Days/ Tractor Pull (call for more info)
August 29th, 7 p.m. – Bunko games at the Senior Center
August 31st, 10:30 a.m. – Center for Better Hearing Presentation at the Senior Center

Chamber of Commerce Member of the Month



Teri Carlson is an entrepreneur and owner of Embroidery Galore located in Kechi, Kansas. Teri enjoys working with local organizations, sport teams, and small to medium size businesses advertising their company logo through embroidery on shirts, bags, jackets, etc. Looking for a personalized gift? Contact Embroidery Galore for gift ideas to include personalized towels, spa wraps, bags, baby items, even embroidered toilet paper for that person on your list who has everything! A little about myself, I have enjoyed sewing since I was a child when my grandmother introduced me to sewing through her creativity. About 10 years ago I bought my first home embroidery machine and started making personalized gifts for friends and family. When my daughter married and started having children I would send her baby items and her friends would ask, how could they order these items? With my daughter's encouragement a commercial embroidery machine was purchased and Embroidery Galore was started. Embroidery Galore has grown from embroidering small gifts for friends and family to working with businesses and other organizations. Whether you are a small business owner looking to have some new shirts embroidered with your logo, or just looking for a great personalized gift, contact Teri of Embroidery Galore at www.EmbroideryGalore.com 316-300-0254.

CITY OF BEL AIRE CONTACTS

City Council

Mayor Harold Smith	744-2650
Dr. Gary Breault	744-0560
Peggy O'Donnell	744-0250
Moe Terrebonne	744-2747
David Austin	744-7188
Dave Sly	204-5574

City Hall

Ty Lasher, City Manager	744-2451, ext. 217
Recreation Department	744-2700
Central Park Pool	744-7331
Parks Department	744-8609
Police • Emergency	911
Non-emergency	744-6000
Animal Control (Sedgwick County)	660-7070
Public Works	744-2888
Water/Sewer Emergency (after 5 p.m.)	761-6972 or 761-6973
Utility Billing	744-2451, ext. 132
Trash (Waste Connections)	838-4920
Hazardous Waste (Sedgwick County)	660-7464

POLICE REPORTS

July 24 — Officer Murphy assisted the fire department in the 6200 block of East 45th North. A fire hydrant was missing a cap and leaking water. Crews searched but couldn't locate the cap. The hydrant was turned off.

July 23 — Officer Hutton responded to an audible burglary alarm in the 5000 block of Lake Breeze Court. The house was secure and there were no signs of criminal activity.

July 22 — Officer Hutton responded to a report of domestic violence in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. No crime was committed. It was an ongoing problem between a father and son.

July 21 — Officer Mavia assisted the fire department with a vehicle fire in the 5200 block of East Ashton. There were no injuries.

July 21 — Officer Steele found a dog at-large in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. The dog's tag had the owner's phone number. The dog was transported to the owner's mother.

July 21 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle driven by Cody R. Harrison in the 4700 block of North Greenwich. Harrison was arrested on a bench warrant. A passenger, Tiffany D. Hudson, also was arrested on a warrant.

July 20 — Officer Hutton responded to a burglary alarm in the 6200 block of East 44th North. There were no signs of criminal activity. The alarm was deemed false.

July 20 — Officers Mavia and McCaslin responded to an audible alarm in the 4100 block of North Danbury. The homeowner set off the alarm by mistake.

July 20 — Officer Mavia responded to a suspicious character call in the 4800 block of North Hillcrest. A man was selling items door-to-door without a permit. He was instructed on how to obtain one.

July 20 — Officer Mavia responded to a residence in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn to check the welfare of a citizen who was lying on the front lawn. She had slurred speech and appeared disoriented. She said she took medications that evening. EMS assessed her condition. Her son arrived on scene and took custody of her.

July 20 — Officer Steele responded to a burglary report in the 4400 block of North Eagle Lake Drive. An unknown person entered the residence by force and removed property. An estimated \$1,360 worth of property was taken and there was \$3,000 worth of damage.

July 20 — Officer Foxx responded to an accident in the 7200 block of East 37th North. A Ford Mustang was found wrecked into a Waste Management trash dumpster. The driver was located at 37th North and Woodlawn.

July 19 — Officer Murphy responded to a report of suspicious characters in the 4100 block of North Edgemoor. Two people were selling cleaning supplies door-to-door, and they did not have permits. They were advised how to obtain a permit from the city.

July 19 — Officer Foxx assisted the fire department with a possible electrical fire in the 4800 block of North Glendale. An electrical short in wiring was found, and the breaker to the outlet was turned off.

July 19 — Officer Foxx observed two vehicles at the community pool in the 6300 block of East Central Park. Three individuals said they had been swimming at the pool but left when they saw the patrol car drive by. They were released at the scene.

July 19 — Officer Foxx stopped a vehicle in the 6300 block of East 37th North for no headlamps. The driver said she did not speak English and then drove away, stopping at her place of employment in the 3700 block of North Poplar, where her sister arrived to assist in translating. The driver was cited for no headlamps.

July 19 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle for a defective tag lamp at 37th North and Oliver. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license.

July 18 — Lt. Griggs responded to the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. A resident said an unknown person placed one of his neighbor's lawn chairs next to his fence. There was no damage or loss.

July 18 — Lt. Griggs responded to a suspicious character call in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. A female was passed out in a blue Ford Mustang at the business. When the officer arrived, the vehicle was unoccupied and the woman was passed out on the north side of the business. The woman, Teresa M. Carlsen, was later arrested on a charge of battery of a law enforcement officer.

July 18 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of a concerned citizen in the 4100 block of North Danbury. A woman said the light pole in front of her house was being used for surveillance, and the wiring on the side of the pole was used

for a camera. Officer assured the woman that the pole was not being used for anything other than lighting the street at night.

July 18 — Officer Mavia assisted on a medical call in the 6100 block of East Perryton. The resident had a seizure. She was taken to the hospital.

July 18 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS in the 4400 block of Edgemoor Court. A man had a seizure and fell out of bed. He refused to be transported by EMS, but was taken to the hospital by his father.

July 18 — Officer Foxx observed a subject walking behind a residence in the 4800 block of East 44th Court. The subject peered into vehicles using a flashlight. The man was staying at the residence while his girlfriend, the homeowner, was out of town. The homeowner was contacted and verified that the man had permission to be at the residence.

July 17 — Officer Mavia assisted EMS in the 5800 block of East Kenawee. An 11-month-old boy had a seizure. He was taken to the hospital.

July 17 — Officer McCaslin responded to a suspicious character call in the 4000 block of North Farmstead. The calling party reported seeing a pickup driving in the area with the driver taking pictures of houses. Officer could not find the truck.

July 17 — Officer Mavia responded to the 5100 block of North St. James on a loud noise complaint. Someone was adjusting a vehicle stereo. There were no more complaints about the matter.

July 17 — Officer McCaslin responded to a report of a party and someone shooting a bow and arrow in the backyard of a house in the 5500 block of East Falcon. There was no one at the house and no signs of archery when officers arrived.

July 17 — Officer Foxx checked an unoccupied vehicle blocking the north drive of a business in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. A woman was asleep inside the vehicle. The woman said she was homeless. The vehicle was pushed out of the road and she was left to sleep.

July 16 — Officer Murphy responded to a fire alarm in the 5500 block of Lycee. The building was checked and the alarm was deemed false.

July 14 — Officer Mavia discovered a trash dump in the 10000 block of East 53rd North. City works was notified.

July 14 — Officer McClaslin responded to a non-injury wreck in the 4500 block of North. Drivers were cited for inattentive driving, expired tag and no proof of insurance.

July 14 — Officer Murphy responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake Court. A man and a woman were in a fight. The man was asked to leave the residence. Photographs were taken of injuries.

July 13 — Officer Hutton responded to a silent alarm at Isely Elementary in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of criminal activity.

July 13 — Officer McCaslin responded to check a residence in the 7900 block of East Caribou. The calling party reported an open door on the back side of the residence. There were no signs of theft or vandalism.

July 13 — Officer Murphy stopped a vehicle for erratic driving in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. A vehicle was traveling south in the northbound lanes at a high rate of speed. The driver said she was depressed and did not feel safe to drive any farther. The driver was picked up by her parents.

July 13 — Officer Murphy stopped a vehicle in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The driver was cited and given a municipal court date.

July 12 — Officer Mavia took a report of an animal running at-large in the neighborhood in the 4300 block of Bellmore. A resident said a neighbor's small dog came to his yard and messed with his front yard garden. The dog's owner said the dog will be kept in the backyard or inside.

July 11 — Lt. Griggs responded to a report of theft in the 4000 block of North Clarendon. A suspect took a large piece of luggage from the back of a truck. Loss was estimated at \$895.

July 11 — Lt. Griggs responded to an alarm on a residence in the 4800 block of North Homestead. Everyone was OK.

July 11 — Lt. Griggs responded to a burglary in the 4200 block of North Mission. The front window of a house was broken out. Suspects were apparently attempting to reach into the window to unlock the front door but were unsuccessful.

Officer graduates from training

Bel Aire police Officer Robert McCaslin graduated June 15 from the 14-week, 218th basic training class at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. The KLETC directly trains the majority of city, county and state law enforcement officers in Kansas. In the state, officers must complete the basic training and obtain 40 hours of continued training annually in subjects related to law enforcement. Chief John Daily said McCaslin passed the 560-hour basic training with high marks and has done well serving the City of Bel Aire.

“He did a great job,” Daily said.

— The Breeze staff

cessful. Damage was estimated at \$200.

July 11 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of domestic violence in the 6300 block of East 47th North. There was no crime.

July 11 — Officer Swanson responded to check the welfare of an individual in the 6400 block of East Odessa at the request of the Andover Police Department who said a girl there made comments on her Facebook page about wanting to kill herself. The girl and her father confirmed that the comments were written by a cousin who had access to the page. The girl was mentally stable and did not want to hurt herself. The page's password was changed.

July 11 — Officer Swanson assisted EMS in the block of East 48th North. A child was choking on an apple. The child was OK.

July 11 — Officer Murphy responded to a vandalism call in the 5900 block of East Memphis. The man's vehicle had two flat tires. He said another man deflated the tires because he was dating the suspect's ex-boyfriend. There were no signs of foul play. The damage appeared to be the result of the car driving onto the curb.

July 10 — Officer Hutton responded to an alarm in the 4200 block of North Westlake Drive. The homeowner didn't realize she had hit the panic button. There was no criminal activity.

July 9 — Officer McCaslin took found property at City Hall, 7651 E. Central Park. A lanyard with two keys was found.

July 7 — Officer Hutton found a vehicle with damage in the 4100 block of North Farmstead. The vehicle was reported stolen. The driver of the vehicle was not found. The owner of the vehicle told police he knew who took it.

July 7 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of unwanted text messages a man was receiving.

July 7 — Officer McCaslin responded to a fireworks complain in the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Court. Officer found no one discharging fireworks.

July 7 — Officer Foxx stopped a vehicle for a tag violation in the 6200 block of East 53rd North. Officer arrested Charles M. Rotramel on charges of driving with a revoked license, driving while a habitual violator, tag violation and no insurance.

July 7 — Officer Foxx arrested Kimberly D. Simpson in the 5400 block of North Woodlawn on a Newton warrant.

July 7 — Officer Steele responded to a suspicious character call in the 4100 block of North Harding. A person was sleeping in a vehicle in front of a residence and another was sleeping on the lawn. They had apparently attended a gathering in the area.

July 6 — Lt. Griggs responded to an alarm in the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Drive. A construction crew had accidentally cut an alarm wire. The alarm company was advised.

July 6 — Lt. Griggs responded to a suspicious vehicle call in the 4900 block of North Hillcrest. A resident reported seeing a driver take pictures of the front of his residence on June 27 and then returned on July 6. The resident gave the officer the tag number.

July 6 — Officer McCaslin responded to a suspicious characters report in the 7800 block of East 45th North. A resident reported seeing two males in a pond. Officer did not locate the suspects.

July 6 — Officer Mavia assisted Park City police with a disturbance in the 4600 block of North Hydroaulic. Neighbors had a verbal altercation.

July 6 — Officer McCaslin stopped a vehicle in the 3900 block of North

Woodlawn Court. The driver was issued a vehicle citation and a notice to appear in court for expired registration.

July 6 — Officer Foxx observed a suspicious vehicle in the parking area of the high school construction site in the 5500 block of North Lycee. Construction crews were working late.

July 6 — Officer Foxx stopped a vehicle at 45th North and Woodlawn. The driver was cited for having no license. A juvenile passenger was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana.

July 6 — Officer Steele responded to Perryton and Stratford on a call of found property. A woman found a syringe.

July 5 — Lt. Griggs responded to an alarm in the 4600 block of North Krueger. The rear door of the residence was unlocked, but everything was OK.

July 5 — Officer Mavia responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4900 block of North Hillcrest. Officer contacted individuals in the 4800 block of Farmstead Court who were preparing to light fireworks. Officer advised it was not allowed.

July 5 — Officer Mavia responded to a suspicious character call in the 4100 block of North Danbury. A woman reported a neighbor walked to her garage and looked inside.

July 4 — Lt. Griggs responded to a report of a vicious dog in the 5200 block of North Colonial. The dog was not vicious, but would not leave the calling party's porch. The dog was taken to Heartland Animal Hospital, and the owner was contacted.

July 4 — Officer Swanson conducted a perimeter check of Isely school in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. Officer discovered a water spigot that was spewing water. Officer turned it off.

July 4 — Officer Mavia took a larceny report at a fireworks stand in the 3900 block of North Woodlawn Court. An employee said several people witnessed juveniles steal fireworks and put them in a vehicle. The employee confronted the driver, but the car sped from the scene. The employee got the vehicle tag number.

July 4 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS on a fireworks injury in the 6100 block of East Quail Ridge Court. A man was taken to the hospital with an eye injury.

July 4 — Officer Foxx assisted the fire department on an alarm at the new high school, 5550 N. Lycee. The alarm was false.

July 4 — Officer Foxx took a fireworks complaint in the 5900 block of East Kenawee.

July 4 — Officer Foxx responded to an alarm in the 6400 block of North Krueger. Two doors were open, but there were no signs of criminal activity at the residence.

July 3 — Officer Hutton responded to a non-injury wreck at 37th North and Woodlawn.

July 3 — Officer Mavia responded to a possible abduction in progress in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. No abduction was taking place.

July 3 — Officer Swanson discovered an unsecured door on a residence in the 7900 block of East Caribou. There were no signs of criminal activity.

July 2 — Officer Hutton responded to a non-injury wreck at 37th North and Oliver.

July 2 — Officer Hutton took a lost property report in the 4500 block of Woodlow. A resident reported missing a

gold and diamond bracelet.

July 2 — Officer Swanson took a fireworks complaint in the 6900 block of East 44th North Court. The fireworks were being discharged in the city limits of Wichita, not Bel Aire.

July 2 — Officer McCaslin assisted Wichita police with a child who was found outside walking alone. Officer took the boy to his home.

July 2 — Officer Toomey responded to a suspicious character call in the 4400 block of North Gunnison. The calling party said an unidentified subject rang the doorbell of the residence. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

July 1 — Officer Hutton assisted EMS in the 6600 block of East 44th North Court. A woman was taken to the hospital.

July 1 — Officer McCaslin checked the welfare of an individual in the 6600 block of East 44th North Court. The woman was not in any danger.

July 1 — Officer Swanson responded to a suspicious character call in the 3900 block of North Woodlawn Court. An employee reported seeing a man run from the fireworks tent.

July 1 — Officer Steele responded to a burglary in progress call in the 5000 block of East 49th North. A resident said someone was trying to enter the garage door of her home. Officer found no suspicious activity.

July 1 — Officer Steele responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4400 block of North Janesville.

July 1 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle for a defective tag lamp at 37th North and Harding. The driver was cited for no driver's license.

June 30 — Officer McCaslin responded to a disturbance call at Family Video in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. There was no incident.

June 30 — Officer Steele responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4300 block of North Rushwood Court. Officer discovered a number of individuals and expended fireworks. Officer advised that fireworks could be discharged on July 4 only.

June 30 — Officer Steele discovered open gates in front of a residence in the 6200 block of East 37th North. Officer closed and locked the gates.

June 30 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle in the 9100 block of East 53rd North. The driver was cited for failing to dim high beams and for driving with a suspended license.

June 30 — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 3900 block of North Woodlawn Court. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 29 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of a burglary at a residence in the 4800 block of Farmstead Court. An iPod and a digital camera were reported missing. A person entered the home while a cleaning crew was there, the resident reported.

June 29 — Officer Hutton responded to an alarm at Isely school in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. Water spigots were left on.

June 28 — Officer Moyer responded to an alarm on a residence in the 4300 block of North Westlake Court. The homeowner said the alarm was tripped accidentally.

June 28 — Officer Swanson assisted the fire department on a person needing assistance to get off the floor in the 6600 block of East 44th North Court.

June 28 — Officer Foxx recovered a vehicle tag that was found at QuikTrip in the 7900 block of Easet 37th North.

June 27 — Officer Mavia responded to an alarm on a residence in the 4400 block of East Westlake Court. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 27 — Officer Foxx responded to a burglary report in the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Court. The resident said someone entered the basement and pulled two posters from the wall near the window. There were no items removed or any other damage.

June 27 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS in the 5800 block of East Memphis. A man who fell was taken to the hospital.

June 26 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS in the 4800 block of North Hillcrest. A man who fell was taken to the hospital.



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Bel Aire doctor honored with humanitarian award

By The News staff

Bel Aire resident Dr. Carol A. Johnson was honored as the recipient of the 2012 Kansas Humanitarian Award recognized by the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians.

The award “honors extraor-

dinary and enduring humanitarian efforts, both within and beyond the borders of the United States,” a news release on Johnson’s recognition said.

The award also “encourages KAFP members, their families and colleagues to assume a sense of global responsibility

and to encourage service to others.”

Johnson is employed by Andover’s Family Physicians of Kansas, but also has pursued medical mission work in Haiti and Myanmar.

“Dr. Johnson is truly an aspiring role model on every

level,” said KAFP Executive Director Carolyn Gaughan. “Clinically, she is top notch, with years of experience providing the full spectrum of family medicine as well as emergency room and trauma care.”

Johnson received the honor June 8 during the KAFP annual

meeting in Overland Park.

The Bel Aire doctor earned her medical degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1977 and completed her residency at the Wesley Family Medicine Residency Program.

Johnson currently serves as

the KAFP-Foundation president and is on the board of directors of the Wesley Medical Research and Education Foundation. She is also the team physician for the Sunrise Christian Academy football team and personal physician for the school’s international students.

Baseball hall-of-famer visits Bel Aire



Courtesy photo

Tommy Lasorda (middle) takes a moment for a photo with (left) rec center director Brian Hayes and employee Drew Conwell.

By Matt Heilman

A baseball legend and a member of the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame was in the Wichita area in late June and found some time around a speaking engagement to visit Bel Aire’s rec center.

Two-time MLB Manager of the Year and three-time World Series champion Tommy Lasorda visited Bel Aire twice around his June 28 appearance at the 15th annual Johnny Bench Award ceremony in downtown Wichita, which annually recognizes the top catcher in college baseball.

He was in Bel Aire to spend some time with members of a local family he’s grown close with through the years. Two grandsons of one of Lasorda’s friends attend school in Wichita and take basketball instruction from Bel Aire resident and former college player

Brent Atwater at the Bel Aire rec center.

During his first stop at the rec center June 26, Lasorda signed baseballs and had his picture taken with rec center director Brian Hayes and full-time staff member Drew Conwell.

The hall-of-famer made a second appearance June 29 where he visited with Atwater and spoke words of encouragement to a couple of young

athletes taking basketball instruction.

He delivered a message on the importance of hard work, telling the young athletes that in order to reach their goals, they had to “climb the mountain.”

He pointed to his hall of fame ring as “the top of the mountain.”

Atwater said Lasorda’s

message meant a lot with his advice solidified by his accomplishments.

“I think the basic thing is just that hard work overrides all,” Atwater said. “You’re not going to become great at anything unless you’ve put in that effort. You hear that message a lot, but to hear it from somebody of his stature is a tremendous honor.”

Back to school time around the corner

By The News staff

The calendar says the summer season doesn’t end until the Sept. 22, but school districts are ending the fun before the leaves start to fall. School starts soon, marking the end of the summer vacation.

In the Wichita school district, students in kindergarten through high school start Aug. 15.

In Valley Center, students

in first through seventh grades, high school freshmen and students new to the district start Aug. 10. Returning students in eighth, 10th, 11th and 12th grades start Aug. 13 with kindergartners starting on Aug. 14.

At Sunrise Christian Academy in Bel Aire, junior high school students start Aug. 15, followed by high school students Aug. 16 and elementary students Aug. 17.

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EXPERIENCE

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- *Worked as a Staff Attorney for the State of Kansas/Child Support Enforcement Unit
- *Kansas Legal Aid Society, Wichita Lawyers Care Project
- *General Counsel for Lodgistix, Inc., a publicly held Wichita-based corporation

EDUCATION

- *1982 Graduate of the University of Kansas School of Business (MBA)
- *1979 Graduate of the University of Kansas School of Law (Juris Doctorate)
- *1975 Graduate from Wichita State University - Majors in Business Administration and Accounting
- *1970 Graduate from Lindsborg High School, Lindsborg, Kansas

PERSONAL

- *Raised 3 Children - Tayler 27, Adelaide 25, and Christian 23
- *Grew up in Lindsborg, Kansas, a rural Swedish-American Community in Central Kansas
- *Raised as a member of the Methodist Church in Lindsborg, Kansas
- *More recently attended the Christian Church in Sedgwick, Kansas
- *Volunteers as a Board Member for the Wichita Indochinese Center, Addressing the Needs of the Asian Community in Wichita

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- *Apply the laws enacted by our Legislature as written

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Hopefuls seek party nod in August primary

By Matt Heilman

Several candidates are vying for key elected positions to represent Sedgwick County in the state Senate and House. The primary election to narrow the field of candidates is set for Aug. 7 with the general election following Nov. 6.

Starting with state Senate District 31, incumbent Carolyn McGinn is facing a challenger from businessman Gary Mason for the Republican nod in the August primary. McGinn has served the district as a state senator since 2005. Senate District 31 includes north-central Wichita, Park City, Valley Center, Kechi and Harvey County. McGinn lives in rural Sedgwick

in northwest Sedgwick County. Mason moved from east Wichita to Park City to challenge McGinn.

In District 16, Republican Ty Masterson of Andover is unopposed in the primary. Senate District 16 includes Bel Aire and runs east into Butler County.

Primarily three districts in the Kansas House represent north Sedgwick County. In House District 90, incumbent Steve Huebert of Valley Center and Wichita Democrat Merry Matthews are unopposed in the Aug. 7 primary. In November, Huebert will be seeking his seventh two-year term.

House District 90 runs east to 159th Street East near Benton

and west to 311th Street West, just west of Mount Hope. The district includes part of north-west Wichita and runs north to the Harvey County line.

In House District 91, Republican Robin Salem Clements of Wichita will face a primary challenger in Gene Suellentrop, also of Wichita. Wichita Democrat Katelyn Delvaux doesn't have a primary challenger. Brenda Landwehr is the current state representative for the district, which includes Park City, most of Kechi, and north Wichita.

In House District 85, which includes most of Bel Aire,

incumbent Steve Brunk, a Wichita Republican, doesn't have a challenger in the August primary. Looking to challenge Brunk in November are Democrats Rebecca Armstrong of Bel Aire and Barry Stanley of Wichita.

In House District 89, three Democrats will face off in the August primary to challenge Republican Emanuel Banks of Wichita. The trio includes Wichitans David Hansen, Peggy Elliott and Roderick Houston. The current representative for District 89 is Wichita Republican Melody McCray-Miller, who is not seeking a fifth term.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Duane Sims of Bel Aire, Erin Breanne Abel of Kechi, and Samantha Horton of Park City received their associate of arts degrees from Hutchinson Community College on May 11 at the Hutchinson Sports Arena.

Pittsburg State University released the honor roll for the 2012 spring sessions. To qualify for Dean's Scholastic Honors, a student must complete at least six semester hours, receive a grade point average of 3.6 for all credit work that semester and have no grade lower than a B and no grade of a I in any course during that semester. To qualify for All-A Scholastic Honors, a student must complete at least six semester hours, receive a grade of A in all credit course work for the semester and no grade of I in any course during the semester.

The following made the honor roll: Emily Wilson, a junior from Bel Aire majoring in chemistry; Hillary Hunsinger, a sophomore also from Bel Aire majoring in early/late childhood development, and Daniel Herman, a senior from Valley Center majoring in construction engineering technology.

Victoria Landwehr of Bel Aire and Brianna Moncivais and Slade West, both of Valley Center, were named to the Vice President's Honor Roll at Hutchinson Community College. Students with at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester were awarded the honor.

Melanie Calvery and Hunter Cline of Bel Aire, Seth Arpin of Kechi, Emily Bevan, Christina Dowding, Marque Jameson, Kari Karleskint, Matthew Klein, James Nance,

and Vivian Otiende all of Park City, Kaci Ablett, Kylee Babb, Cory Breneman, Melissa Kraus, Andrea Lagree, Ashton Mellinger, Clint Silknitter, and John Wiginton of Valley Center made the Dean's Honor Roll at Butler Community College. To achieve this honor, students must have earned between a 3.49 and 3.0 GPA.

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